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Tuning Polarization and Electronic Structure via Chemical Substitution in Two Dimensional Ferroelectrics JOSHUA YOUNG, MO LI, OLAMIDE OMISAKIN, New Jersey Institute of Technology — Two dimensional materials with switchable spontaneous electric polarizations (“2D ferroelectrics”) have recently been garnering attention as components for ultrathin electronic devices. However, 2D ferroelectrics with out-of-plane polarizations are challenging to find. Recently, Chandrasekaran et al. proposed that the functionalized MXene Sc_2CO_2 has a metastable state with a large out-of-plane polarization. [1] In this work, we used density functional theory (DFT) calculations to investigate additional M_2CX_2 materials ($\text{M} = \text{Sc}, \text{Y}, \text{La}; \text{X} = \text{O}, \text{F}$). We found that (1) substitution of Sc with Y and/or O with F can stabilize the ferroelectric phase as the ground state (the dynamic stability was verified with phonon calculations); (2) substitution can also be used to tune the polarization and band gap; and (3) these monolayers display large piezoelectric coefficients. We also show that these properties can be continuously tuned by the application of external strain or by alloying to create $\text{Sc}_{2x}\text{Y}_{2(1-x)}\text{CO}_2$ monolayers. These findings demonstrate that chemical substitution and external stimuli are powerful ways to stabilize and control the properties of low dimensional ferroelectric materials. [1] A. Chandrasekaran, A. Mishra, A. K. Singh, Nano Letters 17 3290 (2017)

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